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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A bicycle carrier for mounting to a vehicle comprising:  
  
a supporting member mountable to said vehicle;  
  
an upper bar;  
  
a cradle to receive a bicycle fork crown, said cradle having first and second structures, said first structure having first and second tines, said second structure having third and fourth tines, said cradle oriented on said upper bar such that when said supporting member is mounted on said vehicle said cradle can receive a bicycle from said bicycle fork crown, said bicycle fork crown positionable between said first and second tines and said third and fourth tines, said bicycle suspendable generally vertically; and said cradle mounted at an angle such that said cradle supports said bicycle fork crown and bicycle handlebars at an angle other than perpendicular to said bicycle.
2. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 1, wherein said supporting member is a generally vertical structure, and said upper bar is a horizontal upper structure on which said cradle is mounted.
3. (original) The bicycle carrier of claim 2, wherein said supporting member has a means of attaching to a vehicle hitch.
4. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 2, further comprising a second bar with means for securing a bicycle rear wheel.
5. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 2, wherein there is a plurality of cradles mounted on said upper bar for receiving a plurality of bicycles.
6. (cancelled)

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7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A vehicle mounted bicycle carrier comprising:

a horizontal bar mountable to said vehicle, said horizontal bar having a cradle, said cradle having first and second structures, each of said first and second structures having first and second tines, said cradle oriented on said horizontal bar such that said cradle can receive a bicycle from said bicycle fork crown, said bicycle fork crown positionable between said first and second tines on each of said first and second structures, said bicycle suspendable generally vertically; and said cradle mounted at an angle such that said cradle supports said bicycle fork crown and bicycle handlebars at an angle other than perpendicular to said bicycle.

9. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8, wherein said horizontal bar is mounted to a generally vertical support member and a vehicle hitch.

10. (cancelled)

11. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8, further comprising means for securing a rear bicycle wheel to said vehicle mounted bicycle carrier.

12. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8, wherein said horizontal bar is mounted generally parallel or generally perpendicular to the rear of said vehicle.

13. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8, wherein a plurality of cradles for carrying a plurality of bicycles, are mounted to said horizontal bar.

14. (cancelled)

15. (withdrawn) The bicycle carrier of claim 1 wherein said cradle comprises two pairs of tines, such that said bicycle fork crown is positionable between each of said pairs.

16. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 1 further comprising a stabilizer bar, said stabilizer bar positioned to stabilize a rear tire of said bicycle.

17. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 16 wherein said stabilizer bar further comprises a hook to hold said rear tire in place.

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18. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 1 wherein said first and second structures are V-shaped.

19. (currently amended) A bicycle carrier for mounting to a vehicle comprising:  
a supporting member mountable to said vehicle;  
an upper bar; and

a cradle to receive a bicycle fork crown, said cradle having a structure, said structure having first and second tines, said cradle oriented on said upper bar such that when said supporting member is mounted on said vehicle said cradle can receive a bicycle from said bicycle fork crown, said bicycle fork crown positionable between said first and second tines, said bicycle suspendable generally vertically; and said cradle mounted at an angle such that said cradle supports said bicycle fork crown and bicycle handlebars at an angle other than perpendicular to said bicycle.

20. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 19 wherein said structure is V-shaped.

21. (previously presented) The bicycle carrier of claim 8 wherein said first and second structures are V-shaped.

22. (currently amended) A vehicle mounted bicycle carrier comprising:

a horizontal bar mountable to said vehicle, said horizontal bar having a cradle, said cradle having a structure, said structure having first and second tines, said cradle oriented on said horizontal bar such that said cradle can receive a bicycle from said bicycle fork crown, said bicycle fork crown positionable between said first and second tines, said bicycle suspendable generally vertically; and said cradle mounted at an angle such that said cradle supports said bicycle fork crown and bicycle handlebars at an angle other than perpendicular to said bicycle.